

## COGNITIVE ASPECTS OF AN AUTHOR'S PERSONAL CONCEPT OF FAMILY

Sodikova N.O.

Andijan State Pedagogical Institute

Email: [nasibal701@mail.ru](mailto:nasibal701@mail.ru)

**Abstract:** The article explores the cognitive structure of the individual authorial concept "FAMILY" in contemporary Russian prose. Based on the cognitive linguistic approach, the study aims to reveal the semantic composition of the concept, including its core and peripheral features, shaped by personal authorial perception. The research identifies cognitive traits and language patterns that reflect cultural, emotional, and social dimensions of family as portrayed by different authors. The concept "FAMILY" is considered as a complex mental-cultural construct that combines universal and individual values.

**Keywords:** Family concept, authorial perception, cognitive features, semantics, cultural code.

**Introduction.** The concept of family traditionally occupies a central place in the system of basic values and in the linguistic picture of the world. However, in the context of social, cultural, and personal transformations, the concept of family acquires a multitude of interpretations. Particularly interesting is its understanding within the framework of the individual author's concept, which reflects the unique vision and worldview of a particular writer. The individual author's concept, according to V.I. Karasik, is a special form of representing mental structures that combines linguistic, cultural, and personal components. In this concept, language functions not simply as a means of describing reality, but as a tool for modeling meanings. Thus, the concept of family in the texts of different authors can radically differ in structure, associative content, and emotional coloring.

The aim of our study is to analyze the cognitive characteristics of the concept of "family" as interpreted by the individual author, to identify its semantic core and periphery, and to determine its structure and methods of linguistic realization in literary texts. The object of analysis is the literary texts of contemporary Russian writers, in particular L. Ulitskaya, Z. Prilepin, and L. Petrushevskaya. The choice of authors is due to the fact that in their works, the theme of family is an important substantive and structural element, allowing for the reconstruction of deep conceptual schemes.

**Research methods.** The present study is based on an interdisciplinary approach that combines the principles of cognitive linguistics, conceptual analysis and elements of discourse analysis. The main method is linguacognitive analysis, which allows us to study how the concept of Family is formed in the author's mind, what features are actualized in the literary text, and how they are expressed through linguistic means [6, p . 94]. The methodological base of the study is based on the works of the following scholars: V.I. Karasik - on the theory of concepts and the typology of individual-author's conceptual models; E.S. Kubryakova - on issues of cognitive modeling and mental representations; I.A. Sternin - on the linguacognitive structure of the concept; S.G. Vorkachev - on the axiological aspects of concepts and emotional components.

In our work we used the following methods: cognitive analysis: studying the structure of the concept as a mental unit - its core, near and far periphery, frame organization [8]. Contextual-interpretive method: analysis of the concept within the framework of specific works of art, taking into account the author's style and individual worldview. Semantic analysis: identifying key lexemes and linguistic markers involved in the formation of the concept. Comparative analysis:

comparing the implementation of the concept Family in the texts of different authors to determine universal and unique features. The material served as fiction works by Russian writers of the late 20th - early 21st centuries, which actively develop the theme of family: Lyudmila Ulitskaya ("Daniel Stein, Translator"); Zakhar Prilepin ("Abode"); Lyudmila Petrushevskaya (collection "Time Night") and others.

The choice of these authors is due to the fact that they represent different artistic styles, gender and ideological positions, which allows us to trace how the individual author's vision of the concept of Family is formed.

**Research results and discussion.** As a result of the cognitive and linguoingival analysis of the literary texts of Ulitskaya, Prilepin, and Petrushevskaya, the key cognitive features and structure of the individual author's concept of Family were identified [9, p . 64]. Let us consider them in more detail: the structure of the concept of Family manifests itself as a complex cognitive structure consisting of three main components:

- Semantic core – basic meanings that capture universal ideas about family: kinship, mutual assistance, love, support.
- Near periphery – additional features that vary among different authors: duty, responsibility, conflicts, rituals.
- The distant periphery – elements that depend on personal experience and creative vision: alienation, loss, idealization, social change. If we pay attention to the individual characteristics of the concept in the authors, then in L. Ulitskaya we see that the author emphasizes the emotional connection and moral obligations in the family. [10, p . 76] In her texts, the family acts as a space of mutual understanding and support, despite social difficulties. The concept clearly presents such cognitive features as love, care and forgiveness. Linguistic markers include metaphors of warmth and home, set expressions are often used that emphasize unity and continuity. And in the work of Z. Prilepin, the concept of family is often associated with the idea of responsibility and sacrifice. His family is not only a blood relationship, but also a community of people united by common ideals and destiny. The semantic core notes an emphasis on duty and honor. In the periphery, there are conflicts and trials that strengthen bonds. Language includes pathetic expressions, elements of drama, and tragedy.

In the next author, L. Petrushevskaya, we see the family as a space of conflict, alienation, and tragedy, where traditional values are called into question. Her concept is dominated by elements of loneliness, destruction, and psychological drama. Linguistically, symbols of emptiness, rupture, and metaphors of shadow and coldness are observed, reflecting a distanced attitude toward the traditional family [7, p . 28].

It's also worth highlighting common and distinct cognitive characteristics. Despite individual differences, all authors share the concept of "family" as a place of emotional support, the importance of mutual responsibilities and support, and an awareness of the difficulties and conflicts inevitable in family relationships. Differences are expressed in emotional coloring, emphases on various aspects (love, duty, alienation), and linguistic means of expression.

**Discussion.** An analysis of the cognitive characteristics and structure of the individual author's concept of Family reveals that, despite a shared cultural and mental foundation, each author develops a unique understanding, informed by personal experience, artistic goals, and worldview. Regarding the individualization of the concept , let us consider the theoretical conclusions of renowned researchers: according to V.I. Karasik's theory, the individual author's concept is the result of integrating personal experience and cultural stereotypes. L. Ulitskaya , Z. Prilepin , and L. Petrushevskaya, drawing on a shared social background, vary cognitive characteristics in different ways, giving each author's version of the concept of Family a unique semantic content.

For example, L. Ulitskaya emphasizes emotional support and acceptance, reflecting her humanistic stance and desire to portray family as a protective space [11, p . 43]. In contrast, L. Petrushevskaya demonstrates the darker sides of family relationships, emphasizing psychological crisis and alienation, which corresponds to her traditions of modernist prose and depth psychology. Speaking about the cultural and social context, we will say that the concept of family does not exist in a vacuum; it is closely linked to changes in society and culture. Thus, in contemporary Russian society, a transformation of traditional family roles is taking place, which is reflected in the texts of Z. Prilepin , where the family is presented as not only a blood unity but also a community of spirit and ideals. This expansion of the conceptual boundaries allows the author to touch on themes of patriotism, personal responsibility, and social mission. The linguistic means of expressing the concept also play a special role [5, p . 18].

The choice of linguistic devices—metaphors, epithets, syntactic constructions—is key in shaping the author's individual concept. L. Ulitskaya's metaphors of home and warmth create the image of the family as an island of safety. In Z. Prilepin's texts , the home becomes a fortress, a symbol of duty and honor, while in L. Petrushevskaya's , it becomes a place of psychological isolation and internal conflict. Identifying the cognitive characteristics and structure of the author's individual concept of "Family" fosters a deep understanding of how language reflects and constructs complex socio-cultural phenomena. This is especially important for the current stage of development of Russian prose, where family themes are being reimagined in response to the challenges of the times.

**Conclusions.** The following key provisions were identified as a result of the study: 1. The individual-author concept of Family in modern Russian prose has a complex cognitive structure, including a semantic core, near and far periphery, which reflects both universal and personally determined meanings. 2. In the texts of L. Ulitskaya, Z. Prilepin and L. Petrushevskaya, the concept of Family manifests itself differently, which is associated with the peculiarities of the author's style, worldview and socio-cultural context. 3. L. Ulitskaya emphasizes emotional support and moral obligations, Z. Prilepin - ideas of duty and responsibility, L. Petrushevskaya - psychological conflicts and alienation, which indicates the diversity of the semantic content of the concept. 4. Linguistic means, such as metaphors, epithets and structural markers, play an important role in creating the individual-author image of the family. 5. The study confirms that the concept of Family is a multidimensional and dynamic mental construct, reflecting both cultural norms and the personal characteristics of the author.

These findings expand our understanding of the cognitive mechanisms of concept formation in fiction and highlight the importance of taking into account the author's individual perspective in linguistic and cognitive analysis.

#### LIST OF REFERENCES:

1. Karasik V.I. Concept as a subject of cognitive-linguistic research // Questions of cognitive linguistics. – M.: Languages of Slavic Culture, 2000. – P. 45–67.
2. Kubryakova E.S. Language and thinking: cognitive models and concepts. – St. Petersburg: Publishing house of St. Petersburg State University, – 2004.
3. Sternin I.A. Cognitive linguistics: theory and practice. – M.: Logos, 2007.
4. Vorkachev S.G. Axiological aspects of conceptology . - M.: Flinta, 2010.
5. Ulitskaya L. Daniel Stein, translator. – M.: AST, 2006.
6. Prilepin Z. Abode. – M.: AST, 2014.
7. Petrushevskaya L. Time of night: stories and novellas. – M.: Eksmo, 2005.



8. Vereshchagina T.Yu. Cognitive analysis of the concept “Family” in the Russian language // Bulletin of Moscow University. Series 9: Philology. - 2012. - No. 4. - P. 54-62.
9. Fedorov A.V. Semantic structures of family concepts in modern Russian prose. – St. Petersburg: Nauka, 2015.
10. Ivanova M.N. Lingvocognitive aspects of author’s concepts // Voprosy yazykoznaniiya [Problems of Linguistics]. – 2018. – No. 3. – P. 89–98.
11. Lebedeva O.V. Author's concept in Russian literature of the 20th century. – M.: Nauka, 2017.
12. Sokolova E.A. Metaphors in the concept of "Family" based on modern prose // Philological journal. - 2019. - No. 6. - P. 101-110.
13. Kozlov P.V. Psychological aspects of the individual concept // Bulletin of psychological linguistics. - 2016. - No. 2. - P. 33-41.